

# OUTLOOK

A Publication of the South Dakota Retirement System

2008 Election Issue

## 2008 SDRS Board Elections

### Three SDRS Board Positions Up for Election

Representatives for Board of Regents employees (incumbent Darwin G. Longieliere—Brookings), state employees (incumbent Eric H. Stroeder—Glenham), and school boards (Janice M. Coleman—Wagner) are running unopposed in this year's election.

Because all candidates are running unopposed, no postcard ballots will be mailed out to each candidate's respective group. All representatives will serve the next four-year term.

Elections for representatives to the SDRS board are held each

spring. Representatives' terms begin July 1, are four years in length, and expire on a staggered schedule.

This special election issue of *Outlook* is intended to provide members with basic information on the candidates seeking election to the Board of Trustees. All biographical information is printed as submitted by the candidates.

Additional questions on qualifications or philosophy should be directed to the candidates.

#### This Year's Election

# 2008

- Board of Regents Employees
- State Employees
- School Boards



#### Upcoming Elections to the SDRS Board of Trustees

## 2009

- Teachers
- State Employees
- Retirees
- Elected Municipal Officials
- County Employees

## 2010

- Teachers
- Public Safety Employees
- Classified Employees

This special issue of Outlook is produced to communicate information about candidates seeking a position on the SDRS Board of Trustees. It is published with funds provided through the contributions of teachers, school boards, state government, state employees, county commissions, county employees, municipal governments, and municipal employees.

## Candidates' Biographies

### Board of Regents Employees Unopposed \*



**Darwin  
Longeliere**

I am pleased to be able to serve a second term as a SDRS Trustee representing Faculty & Exempt staff in the Board of Regents System.

It has been an exciting first term. We were able to safeguard our system assets and integrity and with the excellent performance of the South Dakota Investment Council were also able to make a benefit improvement effective July 1, 2008. Changes were also made in the SDRS supplemental retirement plan that also provide benefit improvements to those staff that participate.

Further the SDRS staff has implemented "My SDRS" a web based system that allows you to examine your SDRS information. I strongly encourage you to take a look at "My SDRS" and utilize the system to make you a better informed future retiree.

The staff has also increased personal accessibility with the installation of a toll free phone line, initiated a more intensive regional workshop schedule and increased the individual counseling session opportunities.

The next four years we will be looking at ways to further improve your SDRS. I will support improvements that make your system more secure and equitable to all SDRS members. I look forward to another four years of service and working with the SDRS staff to make your system serve your needs.

\* Darwin Longeliere, incumbent representative for Board of Regents employees, is running unopposed. No ballot will be issued for his election.

### State Employees Unopposed \*



**Eric  
Stroeder**

Eric Stroeder is the Engineering Supervisor for the Department of Transportation in the Mobridge Area Office and has worked for the SDDOT since 1991. He obtained a B.A. in Engineering Science from Bethel University, a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Minnesota and is a Registered Professional Engineer. Eric has served 4 years on the SDRS Board of Trustees. He has been elected to the National Conference on Public Retirement Systems (NCPERS) National Committee. He is also serving his third term on the executive board of the South Dakota State Employee Organization (SDSEO) and a second term on the Governor's Personnel Management Advisory Board. Eric has completed the course "Public Pensions & You: Going Up to the Trustee Level" and has completed 24 hours of trustee continuing education offered by NCPERS. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, serves on the boards of Lakeside Bible Church and Impact Ministries and is a past president of SDSEO Chapter 19 in Mobridge. Currently, Eric resides north of Glenham, SD with his wife Karrie and four children, ages 6 to 15.

\* Eric Stroeder, incumbent representative for state employees, is running unopposed. No ballot will be issued for his election.

### School Boards Unopposed \*



**Janice  
Coleman**

I am currently serving in my 7th year on the Wagner Community School District #11-4 school board. In addition I have served 8 years on the Wagner Community Memorial Hospital BOD, presently serving as president since 2005.

In 2001, I retired from full-time teaching of Special Education after 18 years. During that time, I taught in Iowa, Minnesota and South Dakota. I have always been a contributing member to their respective state retirement systems, the SDRS being the last and for the longest.

My experience with investments has been limited to my personal finances/contributions/portfolio choices. I serve as the Executor-Power of Attorney for my mother's trust fund. I believe making financial decisions incorporates all the attributes of accountability, responsibility, integrity, trustworthiness, timeliness and dedication.

I have always believed in giving my best effort with the resources available. In my observations, teachers have always been dedicated to their career. My major goal would be to help get the monetary return they deserve. Being elected to the Board of Trustees of the SD Retirement System will allow me to be a strong voice for SD teachers. At the same time, I would demonstrate fiscal responsibility to perpetuate the integrity of the fund.

\* Janice Coleman, representative for school boards, is running unopposed. No ballot will be issued for her election.